

**Brief Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka HANADA,  
Ambassador of Japan, at the Signing Ceremony of 4 GGP  
projects**

14 March, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Good morning,

It is my great pleasure to be here today to address the signing ceremony of the Grant Contracts with 4 national NGOs under Japan's Grant Assistant for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The GGP aims at assisting NGOs and local public authorities in meeting various development needs in a prompt and flexible manner. The 4 projects are expected to contribute agricultural development and improve water and sanitation sectors at the grass-roots level. The geographical balance in implementing the projects is carefully considered as they will be implemented in 4 different districts across the country, namely, Ainaro, Bobonaro, Liquisa, and Manatutu. Japan's total assistance for these four projects adds up to over US\$ 460,000.

The Government of Japan has been supporting the grass-roots projects in Timor-Leste through GGP scheme. All GGP projects are targeted on 3 priority areas set out by Japan's "Country Assistance Policy", namely, Establishing Foundation for Promoting Economic Activities, Agriculture and Rural Development and Capacity Development of Government and Public Sector which were in alignment with the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) of Timor-Leste. Since 2007, more than 30 projects have been implemented in all 13 districts in Timor-Leste, providing water supply systems, irrigation channels, constructing and rehabilitating school buildings and other important infrastructures for the local communities.

I sincerely hope that these 4 projects will contribute to improved livelihood of the local communities and by implementing these important projects with local NGOs. I hope that our strong cooperation and friendship will further be strengthened.

Thank you very much

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